The title page of the original edition of this play printed in 1597, corresponds with that at the other side, to the word death; after which follows—

"As it hath been lately acted by the Right honourable the Lord Chamberlaine his seruants. | At London, Printed by Valentine Sims, for Andrew Wise, dwelling in Paules Church yard at the signe of the Angel. 1597."

The words "newly augmented" first appeared in the title page of the edition printed in 1602; which was I believe the copy primarily followed in printing the folio.

This copy has been collated with the edition of 1598, and the various readings are in the margin.

From this collation it appears that the errors of omission in this copy (to say nothing of the other numerous faults) are no less than twenty six: a striking proof of the value of first editions, and of what I have so often stated in my edition, that omission of words (and sometimes of lines) is one of the most common errors of the press. E. M.

Since the above collation was made, I have met with the edition of 1597, and collated it. The variations between the copy of 1597 and that of 1598 are set down, and are distinguished by being written in imitation of print.

Since I wrote the above I have got a copy of this 1st Edit. See it in Vol. VI.

Enter Richard Duke of Gloucester, solus.

NOw is the winter of discontent,
Made glorious sommer by this sonne of York
And all the cloudes that lowrd vpon our hous
In the deepe bosome of the Ocean buried,
Now are our browes bound with victorious wreath
Our bruſed armes hung vp for monuments,
Our ſterne alarums changd to merrie meetings,
Our dreadfull marches to delightfull pleaſures.
Grim-viſagde warre, hath ſmoothde his wringled fr
And now in ſtead of mounting barbed ſteeds,
To fright the ſoules of fearefull aduerſaries,
He capers nimbly in a Ladies chamber,
To the laſciuious pleaſing of a loue.
But I that am not ſharpe for ſportiue trickes,
Nor made to court an amorous looking glaſſe,
I that am rudely ſtampt, and want loues maieſtie
To ſtrut before a wanton ambling Nymph;
I that am curtaild of this faire proportion,
Cheated of feature by diſſembling nature,
Deformd, vnfiniſht, ſent before my time
Into this breathing world halfe made vp,
And that ſo lamely and vnfaſhionable,
That dogs barke at me as I halt by them:
Why I in this weake piping time of peace
Haue no delight to paſſe away the time,
Vnleſſe to ſpie my ſhadow in the Sunne,
And deſcant on mine owne deformitie:
And therefore ſince I cannot proue a louer
To entertaine theſe faire well ſpoken daies,
I am determined to proue a villaine,
And hate the idle pleaſures of theſe daies
Plots haue I laid, inductions dangerous,

Line 1. ourdiscontent 1598. 8. n
14. shapd 21. scarce half.
Line 9. wrinkled. 1597.